

Health Care Provider Fact Sheet

Disease Name

Homocystinuria

Alternate name(s)

Cystathionine beta-synthase deficiency

Acronym

CBS deficiency

Disease Classification

Amino Acid Disorder

Variants

Yes

Variant name

Pyridoxine-responsive type (the majority of cases are unresponsive to pyridoxine)

Symptom onset

Childhood

Symptoms

Ectopia lentis, vascular occlusive disease, seizures, malar flush, osteoporosis, possible decreased pigmentation of hair, skin and iris, skeletal abnormalities including genu valgum, pectus excavatum, pes cavus and marfanoid habitus. Some patients have failure to thrive and short stature. Mental retardation is possible.

Natural history without treatment

Mental retardation is common but not invariable. Vascular disease, stroke and psychiatric abnormalities.

Natural history with treatment

Decrease of thromboembolic accidents which may decrease incidence of sequelae including mental retardation, ectopia lentis, seizures and psychiatric abnormalities. Normal IQ is possible and typical of the pyridoxine-responsive variant.

Treatment

Pyridoxine supplementation, dietary restriction of methionine with supplementation of L-cysteine, betaine supplementation. Consider folate and vitamin B12 supplementation.

Other

N/A

Physical phenotype

Ectopia lentis, decreased pigmentation, malar flush, osteoporosis, skeletal abnormalities and marfanoid habitus

Inheritance

Autosomal recessive

General population incidence

1:200,000 – 300,000

Ethnic differences

Yes

Population

Irish, U.S New England

Ethnic incidence

1:50,000

Enzyme location

Lymphocytes, fibroblasts and liver

Enzyme Function

Degradation of homocysteine

Missing Enzyme

Cystathionine beta-synthase

Metabolite changes

Increased methionine in blood, increased homocystine in urine, increased total homocysteine in blood.

Gene

CBS gene

Gene location

21q22.3

DNA testing available

Yes

DNA testing detail

Numerous mutations have been detected. Most prevalent mutations are G307S and I278T. Most patients are compound heterozygotes.

Prenatal testing

Enzyme assay in cultured amniocytes (CVS not possible)

MS/MS Profile

N/A

OMIM Link

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/dispomim.cgi?id=236200>

Genetests Link

www.genetests.org

Support Group

National Coalition for PKU and Allied Disorders

<http://www.pku-allieddisorders.org/>

Children Living with Inherited Metabolic Diseases

<http://www.climb.org.uk/>